(ii) A simplified Presumptive Tax Scheme for small businessmen is in operation with effect from asstt. year 1993-94.

(iii) A new procedure is being envisaged on experimental basis for elimination of the close-nexus between the taxpayers and the lower level functionaries of the department.

(iv) The norms for selection of cases for scrutiny is being reviewed to do away with the discretion available in this regard with the assessing officers.

(v) With a view to increase transparency it has been decided to communicate the decisions in the form of public circulars as far as possible rather than as departmental instructions.

(vi) Grievance Cells have been set up both Centrally and in field offices to redress grievances of the taxpayers expeditiously.

Currency Coins Minted in India

4432. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of currency coins minted in India during the last three years ; and

(b) what is the profit or loss incurred on this due to change in the value of the metal therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) The total value of coins minted in the India Government Mints during the last three years is as under :

Year	Value (In thousand Rs.)
1991-92	96,78,21
1992-93	1,06,13,34
1993-94	2,41,19,51

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

KERB Trading

4433. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimate of Kerb trading as a percentage of regular trading on the Bombay Stock Exchange ;

(b) whether Kerb trading is permissible according to the new guidelines of the SEBI ;

(c) what is the policy of SEBI with respect of Kerb trading ; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to control Kerb trading ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) While it is not possible to give any precise estimate of Kerb trading in securities because it is illegal, it is reported that such trading can be considered to constitute a very small percentage of the total turnover on the Bombay Stock Exchange.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. SEBI is of the view that Kerb trading should be avoided in the interest of the securities market.

(d) Under the provisions of Section 23(1) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, any person who joins, gathers or assists in gathering at any place for doing business in securities other than the place of business specified in the bye-laws of a recognised stock exchange shall, on conviction, be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine or with both. According to Section 25 of the said Act, any offence punishable under the provisions of Section 23(1) of the Act shall be deemed to be a cognisable offence within the meaning of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Listed Companies with Face Value above Rs. 10 for Shares

4434. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA :
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of companies listed on the Stock Exchanges in India